

# PROCLAMATION

BY THE

## Governor of the State of Texas

41-1715

ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS SHALL COME:

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AUSTIN, TEXAS 78761

JUN 14 1979

June 12, 1979

Pursuant to Article IV, Section 14 of the Constitution of Texas,  
I hereby veto House Bill 1689 because of the following objections:

This bill changes the order of argument in a criminal case. The present law states that the State's counsel shall have the right to make the concluding address to the jury. This has been the case for many years and insures that the people's case through the state's counsel has the last word to the jury. This bill changes this historical pattern and requires the state's counsel to "make a full and complete opening address" and yet not requiring the defendant's counsel to do the same thing. The bill states the state's counsel has the right to a concluding address to the jury, but it is obvious the bill is designed to change the procedure that requires the state to have the final say to the jury. The new effect of this bill is to weaken the state's case by altering how the state presents its case. I am convinced the vast majority of Texans are opposed to this, and I therefore veto House Bill 1689.

Respectfully,



William P. Clements, Jr.  
Governor



FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE  
SECRETARY OF STATE  
..... 9:00 A.M. .... O'CLOCK

JUN 13 1979

.....  
Secretary of State